SOUTH VIET NAM *In struggle*

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editorial

Time is on our side

WE are on the threshold of 1970. The preceding year was for South Viet Nam, and for the world as well, an eventful year.

In the US at its beginning, Mr Nixon was installed in the most powerful office of the capitalist world by a campaign promise to end the war in South Viet Nam. But with every passing day, his duplicity became more apparent and so did his true colours as "an international gendarme" and "a hawk in a dove's plumes". His daily hypocritical prayers for peace were not matched his deeds. He had been instead following the perilous war path of his predecessor with the only difference that his methods were more subtle, in view of the greater difficulties facing his administration. His "Vietnamization" of the agression is his illusory hope to alleviate the prtient US political, diplomatic, military and economic straits and to keep US neo-colonialist rule in South Viet Nam. To this effect, he had been striving his best, since taking office, to reinvigorate the puppet army, to face lift the Saigon regime, to intensify "sweeps", to accelerate

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Flood in most inner provinces, as early this year, with a view southward in their course

President NGUYEN HUU THO

Christmas and New Year's message to American people

Dear friends,

On the occasion of Christmas and New Year's Days, on behalf of the South Vietnamese people, the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and in my own name, I wish to convey to you, to all the peace and justice-loving Americans my warm congratulations and best wishes.

I particularly convey my regards to the families of those now persecuted and repressed for their protest against the unjust and immoral war conducted by the US government in Viet Nam. I express my deep sympathy with the families of those fallen in this war, and with the families that are being day and night obsessed with anxiety for the destiny of their husbands and sons forced to go to the South Viet Nam battlefield.

Dear friends,

As you know, through a year in office, Mr. Nixon has failed to keep his promise with the American people, that is to end the war, instead undertakes to "Vietnamize the war", thus in fact dragging out the war of aggression, continuing to waste the lives and money of the American people on the South Viet Nam battlefield. Mr. Nixon is trying to stick to the present bellicose, rotten and isolated Saigon puppet administration, and is pushing the Paris Conference on Viet Nam to an impasse after nearly 50 sessions.

The obstinate and crafty attitude of the Nixon administration has rendered the war in Viet Nam fiercer, caused further death and destruction in South Viet Nam, and such savage massacres as the ones in Son My, Ba Lang An and Kong H'Rinh, and most recently the mass murder of 240 civilians in Binh Duong. (November 12, 1969)

That is why, the aspiration of the American people and the world people as a whole for the cessation of the US war of aggression in Viet Nam has not yet been realized. The aspiration for the definite return of all American youths in South Viet Nam to their beloved has not been carried out either!

Opposition to the Nixon administration's war policy has therefore, in the past year, vigorously developed in the US and in the world. The recent large-scale Fall Offensive and the severe condemnation of the barbarous persecution and reprisals of Vietnamese civilians in Son My and other massacres proved all the more clearly that the genuine Americans are fed up with this criminal war. I take this opportunity to give my hearty welcome to your endeavours, and wish you, in the new year, many successes so as to attain these legitimate demands at an early date.

The South Vietnamese people ardently cherish peace and union. But they are deeply aware that peace could be realised only when the US government stops its war of aggression against Viet Nam, and let the South Vietnamese people decide themselves their internal affairs, free from foreign interference.

So long as these goals are not yet reached, the South Vietnamese people are still resolved to carry out President Ho Chi Minh's Testament, overcome all difficulties and hardships, persist in and step up their struggle against US aggression, for national salvation till final victory.

We firmly believe that we will continue to receive sympathy and strong support from you and the peace-loving people all over the world.

Once again, I wish you good luck in the new year. May the mutual understanding and friendship between the South Vietnamese people and the American people develop with every passing day.

28 "HERO UNITS" AND 23 "FIGHTERS HERO" OF PLAF NEWLY CONFERED

THE PRG of the SVNR has decided to confer the "Hero Unit" title on 28 units of the People's Liberation Armed Forces, and to honour 23 officers and fighters of the PLAF with the "PLAF Hero" title.

The honoured Units and individuals come from all the three categories of the PLAF — regular forces, regional forces, militia and home guard — and include men as well as women combatants.

The decision, signed by Huynh Tan Phat, President of the PRG of the SVNR, cited :

— 4 units and 4 individuals on the Highway 9 — Khe Sanh Front.

— 8 units and individuals on the Front of Quang Tri - Thua Thien provinces and Hue city ;

— 5 units and 6 individuals on the battlefield of the Central Viet Nam ;

— 2 units and 2 individuals on the southern Trung Bo battlefield ;

— 5 units and 3 individuals on the oriental Nam Bo battlefield ;

— One unit on the Central Nam Bo battlefield ;

— One unit on the Western Nam Bo Front, and

— 2 units and 5 individuals on the Saigon - Gia Dinh battlefield.

Officers and men of the United States and other countries in the US camp,

PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT's APPEAL TO GIs IN SOUTH VIET NAM

The war which the US government is conducting in South Viet Nam is an aggressive, unjust, illegal and immoral war. It tramples on the sacred sovereigtuty of the Vietnamese nation and causes a massacre of the Vietnamese people, the most brutal ever seen in human history. It has also caused the senseless death of tens of thousands of young Americans in South Viet Nam, brought bereavement an suffering to tens of thousands of American families, dislocation to the American economy, difficulties to the life of the American people, and blemish to the honour of the United States so proud of its traditional love of peace, justice and freedom. For the independence and freedom of their fatherland, the Vietnamese people have courageously waged an extremely glorious war of resistance against US aggression, for national salvation, and have recorded very glorious successes. Broad sections of the American people and peace and justice-loving people in the world have been strongly condemning this criminal aggresive war of the US. Many armen in the US expeditionary corps in South Viet Nam have also courageously taken stand against this war. The policy of war and aggression pursued by the Johnson administration and continued by Nixon administration has met with ever heavier failure and ever greater alienation. However, the Nixon administration remains very obstinate and perfidious. In an attempt to appease and deceive public opinion in the United States and the world, Nixon is playing the peace fraud, talking glibly of peace while effecting a troop withdrawal by dribblets which is in reality aimed at dragging out the war, continuing to force the American youths to a useless death in South Viet Nam and pushing American nation into tighter straits and greater stalemate.

In face of such situation, for the sake of justice and morality and for the friendship among nations and world peace, the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam appeals to the US officers and men on the South Viet Nam battlefield to rise up and together with the progressive people in the United States to use every appropriate form of struggle to demand that the Nixon administration end immediately the war of aggression, and bring home forthwith all the troops of the US and the other countries in the US camp so that the South Vietnamese people may settle their own internal affairs by themselves, free of foreign interference. Motivated by its humanitarian policy, the PRG of the SVNR welcomes and supports all anti-war acts, collective or individual, by American officers and will create every facility for them to withdraw promptly and safely from Viet Nam. The PRG of the SVNR calls upon them :

1/ To resolutely refuse to take part in terror raids, refrain from bombing, shelling, firing or any other acts of repression and massacre against the Vietnamese people, to let the Vietnamese people more about freely to earn their livelihood, to struggle against the US warmongers and their puppets and refrain from all hostile acts against the Viet Nam People's Liberation Armed Forces; to use every form of struggle to resist being forced to take part in terror operations, and if compelled to go to battle, to stay put and refrain from all acts of terror;

2/ To struggle courageously for repatriation without delay;

3/ To seek every appropriate means to contact the local people, revolutionary power or liberation armed forces and inform them of your anti-war attitude and actions so that the latter may refrain from attacking you or may provide you assistance when necessary.

4/ Those of you who want to escape the war of aggression in Viet Nam and return to their country or proceed to any other country in the world by crossing over to the side of the Vietnamese revolution will enjoy humanitarian treatment from the revolutionary government and the people's liberation armed forces who will ensure them safety and afford them every facility.

5/ The officers and men of the other countries in the US camp who take anti-war actions will also enjoy the same treatment as mentioned above.

Officers and men of the US and other countries in the US camp,

For the sake of peace and independence of the nations, for the honour of your country and the happiness of your families and your own life, rise up to demand that the Nixon administration immediately comply with the common aspiration of the American people and of yourselves, viz peace in Viet Nam and immediate withdrawal of all US expeditionary troops.

The just struggle of the Vietnamese people and the progressive people in the United States against the Nixon administration's stubborn policy of dragging out the war of aggression will certainly win complete victory

UNIVERSAL OUTCRIES AGAINST the SON MY massacre by US troops

The mass murder of over 500-odd people in Son My village (Quang Ngai province) in March 16, 1968 has been once again brought to light with all its horror. It is shocking public opinion in the world at large:

● On November 27, 300,000 East Berliners (GDR) took part in a mammoth meeting demanding immediate cessation by the US of its war of aggression in Viet Nam and condemning the Son My atrocity.

Walter Ulbricht, Chairman of the GDR State Council, and other high-ranking members of GDR Government and the Socialist United Party of Germany attended the meeting. A resolution was unanimously passed which said:... "The bloodbath of Son My and others in South Viet Nam in the course of which thousands of defenceless women, children and old agers were barbarously massacred by the US aggressors are reminiscent of darkest days of Hitlerit fascism".

● On November, 1969, the spokesman of the DPRK Foreign Ministry declared:... "The fiendish bestialities of the US imperialists in their war of aggression in Viet Nam to day portend that the doom of beast is imminent...»

● In the first days of December, the Moscow conference of Party and State leaders of seven socialist countries (The Soviet Union, Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland, Rumania, and Czechoslovakia) — issued a statement on the Viet Nam problem severely condemning the US criminal war of aggression, and warmly supporting the Vietnamese people's struggle against US aggression, for national salvation.

● The joint communique between a visiting delegation of SVNNFL and SVNRPRG led by Tran Buu Kiem and a delegation of PRM Government on December 9, 1969, stressed: «... The Mongolian Government and people severely condemned the Nixon administration for stubbornly continuing the intensification of its crimes against the Vietnamese people, its wide use of B 52 strategic aircraft and savage massacres in Son My, Thu Duc, BaTang An...»

● On December 13, 1969, the Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia... issued a statement which severely condemning the US criminal war of aggression in Viet Nam, and strongly denouncing the Son My mass murder committed by the US troops.

● International and national organizations as the Women's International Democratic Federation, the Soviet TU Central Council, the German Free Youth League, the International Association of Democratic Lawyers, the Tri-continental Committee of support for Viet Nam, the Argentina Movement of Solidarity with Viet Nam, and other socialist organizations in many countries from Eastern to Western over the world, have published angry protests against the Son My massacre of civilians, mostly women and children.

● Papers and political officers in Soviet Union, China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, West Germany, Denmark, India, Lebano... have unanimously flayed the US imperialists' Son My crime.

● In face of strong public indignation, the White House on November 26, had to officially admit that the massacre was "in direct violation not only of US military policy, but is also abhorrent to the conscience of all the American people.

● Senator J. William Fulbright urged a prompt and thorough investigation into the case, warning that the incident can cause grave concern all over the world. He also told newsmen that the massacre demonstrated "the brutalization of our society".

● In a letter to the Chairman of the US military Committee, Senator Charles Goodell called for thorough investigations by the US Senator into the affair. He stated that the USA had not observed the "norms of a civilized nation".

● He said the facts about mass slaying as disclosed in the world press were shocking. He pointed out that it was committed on order of US officers and that eye witnesses had been instructed by their military superiors to keep silence about the dreadful event.

● Senator Stephen Young, Democrat-Ohio, said: "...Americans must know and the sooner the better-the long suppressed facts about what certainly has been one of our nation's most ignoble...

He said he has asked Senator John C. Stennis, Democrat-Mississipi, Chairman of the Armed Services Committee to order an immediate investigation of "this sordid affair".

● Senator Charles Percy, Republican — Illinois, said the Pentagon had taken advantage of public confidence "by incredibly hiding the facts" for 20 months, and called for the Senate's and Defence Department's simultaneous inquiries.

● Democrat Senator Mike Mansfield, Senate majority leader, said he was in favour of an inquiry "because there is no much smoke"...

● Under the headline "Story of Indisputable Horror — the Deliberate Slaughter of Old Men, Women, Children and Babies", the US "Life" magazine on November 30, 1969, published a series of photos and an account of the massacre by American troops in Son My village, South Viet Nam, in March 1968.

● At the same time, the New York Times in an editorial said: "Reports of the deliberate, methodical killing of hundreds of civilians-men, women, children — by American troops in a Vietnamese village last year are shocking, so contrary to principles for which this country has always stood, as to be beyond belief. Yet the evidence mounts daily that something horrible did take place"... Other papers as Cleveland newspaper "Plain Dealer", Times... published pictures showing South Vietnamese civilans murdered in cold blood by American GIs...

● In Britain, members of the Parliamentary Labour Party were deeply shocked by the stories of the Son My massacre, 65 of them signed a motion on the House of Commons order paper saying they were "deeply disturbed" at the mass murder and calling on the British Government to express to the United States Government the deep concern in Britain at the reports on the Son My case.

● On November 23, thousands of Londoners staged a march to protest against the US aggressors' wholesale massacre in Son My village, South Viet Nam, in March last year. They carried flags of the DRVN and SVNRPRG and streamers and placards which read among other things,...: "All US troops out Viet Nam"... "Victory for the Vietnamese people".

● The Observer's editorial on November 23, said: "The reports of the massacre, even if only partly true, are horrifying."

The Daily Mirror, the Daily Mail, Sunday Times, the Daily Sketch... reported details and published a series of photos, stories, evidence, editorials, of the massacre by American troops in Son My village...

● In France, l'Humanité, le Monde, France Soir, le Figaro and Combat... reported in detail the Son My mass murder.

Paris Jour described it as a "Vietnamese Oradour", Combat and le Figaro said the slayings greatly shocked public opinion.

L'Humanité on November 20, said: "The US aggressors have committed utterly odious crimes but completely in vain because they have proven unable to subdue the Vietnamese people. Many children were killed in Son My. We must not forget their last screams"...

AFP November 19, quoted four South Vietnamese survivors of the Son My massacre as saying that the GIs had ordered the villagers to leave their houses, then killed them with rifle and machinegun shots in three mass executions...

THE MY LAI MASSACRE
It passed without notice when it occurred in mid-March 1968, at a time when the war news was still dominated by the siege of Khe Sanh. Yet the brief action at My Lai, a hamlet in Viet Cong-infested territory 335 miles northeast of Saigon, may yet have an impact on the war. According to accounts that suddenly appeared on TV and in the world press last week, a company of 60 or 70 U.S. infantrymen had entered My Lai early one morning and destroyed its houses. Protests said the inhabitants that part would find a brutal epitaph that took less than 20 minutes. When it was over, the Vietnamese dead totaled at least 109, men, women and children, and perhaps many more. Only 25 or so escaped, because they lay hidden under the fallen bodies of their relatives and neighbors.
So far, the tale of My Lai has only been told by a few Vietnamese survivors — all of them pro-VC — and half
Darrh American veterans of the incident. Yet while their principal story tends to check out, the full extent of what happened at My Lai are essentially correct. It was the incident ranks as the most serious atrocity yet committed by American troops in a war that is already well known for its particular savagery.
Rather Dark and Bloody. The My Lai incident might never have come to light. The only people who reported it at the time were the Viet Cong, who
SCREAMING BOOTY OF VIETNAMESE AT MY LAI
BODY OF SLAIN WOMAN
TIME, NOVEMBER 28, 1969
DEAD CHILD & KNIFE

Photos on Son My massacre published in "Life" magazine. These are some of the undeniable proofs of the US aggressors' crimes against civilians in South Viet Nam.

Time Is On Our Side

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the implementation of the "pacification programme", all this resulting in more death and destruction for the South Vietnamese people and in more material and moral misery for the Americans.

At the Paris peace conference, all the efforts of the US delegate were focused on presenting specious pleas for the US administration's aggressive stance and on balking at discussing the crucial issue of ending US aggression, and of unconditionally and totally withdrawing US and satellite soldiery from South Viet Nam.

The past year found in Mr Nixon a bankrupt gambler resorting to his last resources and staking his last dollars in a desperate attempt to make good his losses and stave off his imminent ruin.

But time was not on his side. Each hour, each day, each week and each month of 1969 brought fresh setbacks for the US while the strength and successes of the South Vietnamese patriots were on the increase.

No doubt in the flush of their 1968 dramatic fruitful onsets, in 1969, the South Vietnamese people and armed forces displayed greater daring and imagination in their actions against the US-puppets, which aggravated the latter's loss of initiative and predicament, and forced them to dig in deeper. The toll in lives and materials they had to pay reached an all-time high and the Saigon administration and army was in a more and more precarious plight.

Meantime, the sweeping expansion of the national united front of South Viet Nam, triggered off in 1968 by the emergence of the Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces had been going on, which is a sure earnest of the South Vietnamese people's future accomplishments.

An epoch-making event in 1969, the all South Viet Nam People's Congress which appointed the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the South Viet Nam Republic and its prompt recognition by scores of countries and establishment of diplomatic relations with several of them, marked a spectacular political feat of South Vietnamese revolution and powerfully impelled the growth of its strength and substantially enhanced its position.

The enlargement of the liberated areas kept pace with political and military achievements. The extending network of people's revolutionary committees provided unprecedented facilities for development for combat, production, culture, education, health... The growing viability and vigour of popular rule showed that more than ever the immediate rear base of the South Vietnamese resistance was capable of fulfilling its strategic function.

At the Paris talks, the just position and goodwill of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the South Viet Nam Republic Provisional Revolutionary Government enlisted wider support and sympathy from public opinion. Their 10-point proposal was accepted by increasingly larger masses of people as a sensible and reasonable basis for a fair political settlement to the South Viet Nam issue.

The world peoples' support for Viet Nam's Resistance and opposition to US aggression and the help and assistance of the socialist countries had been on a steady rise while the nationalist countries, and progressives in the world and in the US itself become more closely associated with the cause of the South Vietnamese. Anti-war protest in the US which had gained momentum in 1968 assumed in 1969 such magnitude as made the White House and Pentagon hawks feel utterly unconfortable. The visits of the representatives of the latter to a series of socialist states, and of Asian, European, African and Mid-Eastern countries strengthened the bonds of militant friendship between the South Viet Nam patriots and the nations of the world and lent more lustre to their international image.

Clearly and encouragingly enough, 1969 was for the South Vietnamese a very fruitful year in which on the one hand giant's strides were made by their revolution, and on the other more stinging setbacks were inflicted on the US side, plagued by proliferating difficulties and torn by embittered divergences.

ALTHOUGH US final failure in South Viet Nam is a foregone conclusion, it has not made up its mind to it. This was transparent in Mr Nixon's November 3 address and December 8, 1969, press conference: persistent reluctance to honour his presidential vace pledge, stubborn refusal to meet the South Viet Nam, American and world people's legitimate demand for an end to the aggression and total and unconditional pull out of US troops from South Viet Nam, obstinate attempts to "Vietnamize" the war. The ulterior motive behind his trickling cutbacks to keep down US casualties, diminish its accumulating problems, pursue its aggressive ends and maintain its neo-colonialist domination in South Viet Nam.

In these conditions, there cannot be genuine peace in Viet Nam, nor can the Paris negotiations move an inch forward while the US administration is dead set against the NFL and SVNR PRG ten-point solution.

The South Vietnamese treasure peace more than any other people, but it must be genuine peace, in independence and freedom, which is completely incompatible with continued US aggression and presence of US military on their territory. Until a fair solution, based on the 10-point programme is attained, they will keep up their fight.

They are confident that their sound political line, the strength of their national unity, the fight and stamina of their armed forces, the whole-hearted assistance of their Northern kindred and the sympathy and support of the world peoples and US progressives will help them win through all difficulties and hardships and bring their resistance from success to success and to ultimate victory.

On the threshold of the new year, fired forward by past achievements, they will undertake a determined effort to implement President Ho Chi Minh's last directions and completely foil US aggression. Time is on their side. For them, 1970 is pregnant with even more resplendent prospects than the year which is gone.

SOUTH VIET NAM

At a Liberation Field Hospital

A mass of bomb released by B52s from high up in the sky, torethough the air blanketted with explosions the jungle. The underground shelter rocket violently in an avalanche of dust. Amidst all this, the white - gowned surgeon, middle aged, tall, and spare of build remained quiet in the middle of the room. Only his brows were knitted together, almost imperceptibly. The second carpet of bombs hit the ground a little further. The doctor tied up his gauze mask, and signed with his eyes the assistant to step aside to give room to a nurse, who came up with a tray containing just the few most essential surgical instruments.

The third blombload landed, in a distant, prolonged rumble. The grey haired and sharp featured doctor picked up the lancet from the tray, and bent his head forwards. His eyes, bright and kind, were glued on the patient.

The latter was lying on his back on the operation table, his eye closed, his head propped up by block of wood. His high nose ridge, his soft and small mouth, which must be very quiet in smile, gave him a boy look, while a broad scar across his forehead marked him off as a seasoned fighter.

Very gently, the dortor touched the patient's injured thigh. The young man, already under anesthesia, stirred a little and lay still again. A torchlight was flashed on. The operation began.

* * *

The patient had been brought in two days ago, in a complete coma, resulting from heavy bleeding. His wound was five days old and gangrene had set in and was expanding upwards. Shocks occured frequently, and the patient was wasting away fast.

The case was put into the hands of doctor N., who had also served in the former resistance war against the French colonialists. After a consultation with his colleagues, the doctor half-heartedly opted for an amputation.

The only hitch, however, was the patient's extreme exhaustion and anesthetic was short and serum nonexistent. Moreover, the two assistants available were to an emergency.

When the difficulties were at last surmounted, with a crash course on anesthetization simultaneously with on-the-spot fabrication of some serum, and just after the patient had been wheeled in, another danger loomed up—an imminent sweep by the enemy.

The doctor was thinking hard when preparatory bombardments by enemy aircraft and artillery were already underway. It would very simple to evacuate the young man to safety like some other patients. Yet, the chance was nine to ten that he would die en route, with mortification spreading fast.

No, it was impossible, and irresponsible, to risk the life of the patient, whose feature, by some inexplicable reason, refinded the doctor, with agonizing vividness, of his own son, whose whereabouts the father had not the least idea of. Was he, at this very moment, fighting the enemy somewhere, or was he, wounded, too, was waiting for a

THE SHARPSHOOTER ON THE SAND DUNE

DONG Xuan Chin rested the barrel of his gun on a support and aimed it at an enemy officer who was looking through binoculars... The officer suddenly gave a jerk and collapsed. For Chin, it was an easy shot. But the guerilla Vu Van Suu, who had been watching him, kept repeating in admiration; "What a tremendous marksman you are!"

Chin pointed his finger at the top of a nearby sand dune and said sharply, as if he were giving orders to a whole company, "Let's take up position there!" They rushed up, followed by angry bursts of enemy mortar shells. There were only the two of them, a PLAF man and a guerilla who met by chance at a moment when a big sweep was being launched by the enemy against a hamlet defended by a company of NFL regionals.

The piece of parachute cloth used by Chin as a camouflage fluttered over his head. The wind sang in the pine trees. Behind the men was an immense emerald expanse; the sea. On their right was Cua Tung, on their left Cua Viet, two estuaries. At the foot of the sand dune was a small hamlet, the target of the enemy raid.

"They're coming in nine spearheads," said Suu, the guerilla.

"We must stop them," said Chin. "They'll massacre the people, prevent the evacuation of our wounded, and even attack our regionals from the rear. Look!"

Along a small lane, two wounded NFL men, their heads and chests swathed in bandages, were limping. The enemy opened an intense fire.

"Let's hit back at them."

"Good."

Chin cocked his gun, but seemed in no hurry. He wiped his hands on his pants, tightened his belt, pulled the visor of his cap over his eyes.

The enemy were advancing in an arc made up of nine spearheads, as Suu had observed. Chin took aim, like a hunter sighting game. An American officer suddenly put his hand to his chest, stumbled, and fell. Chin slowly swung his gun from right to left and fired four successive shots at leaders of enemy spearheads. Suu shouted, "Heaven, you didn't miss once!"

Suddenly enemy guns fell silent. Chin said, "Shelling and bombing will begin. Beware!"

Hardly had the two men sunk into their holes when the earth shook. Their ankles disappeared into the sand, then their legs. Chin protected his gun as best he could, stopping the muzzle with his hand and clenching the bolt and breech between his thighs. His ears were deafened and his head swam. His temples hurt. Angered by his forced immobility, he worried lest the enemy was taking advantage of the artillery barrage to advance. He didn't even know whether Suu was still alive. Suddenly he stood up, the sand coming to his belly. The shelling had stopped. The wind from the sea quickly drove away the smoke. Chin dug the sand and pulled Suu out. Sounds of gunfire came from the hamlet. The two men knew their friends were fighting on.

"Our people are hitting back," Suu said. Suddenly he jumped into a shell crater and pointed his finger in the direction of the enemy: "Shoot, they're coming!" he shouted.

But Chin didn't seem to be in a hurry. In fact, the tougher things appeared, the more relaxed he looked! He carefully propped the barrel of his gun on his gas mask box, wiped his hands, shook his head, and smiled. "Warn me if any rascal tries to sneak near," he told Suu. Again he gave evidence of his marksmanship; a seasoned fighter, he had taken part in 24 battles, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy in each.

"Pick off this one, Chin," said Suu, and that [illegible] and the fellow in the middle [illegible]

[illegible] missed. The enemy were [illegible] their faces. Then a [illegible] a smoke bomb about six [illegible]ay. Chin and Suu rushed forward with their bare hands [illegible] and on the bomb and [illegible]t. Then they set about [illegible] shelters in the sand.

"They're trying to bomb [illegible]" Chin. "Beware, don't let the sand bury you under!"

Presently four [illegible] bombers turned up in the sky and began diving on the sand dune. Suu lay on his back shooting at them with his rifle. Chien pulled him by his legs into a shelter. Bombs started exploding all around. It seemed to the two men as though they were sitting in a swing. They were unable to speak and their bodies were paralysed. After the sixth salvo, which turned out to be the last, they stuck their heads out. A strong wind was blowing and the air was clear.

Chin was the first to crawl out. The enemy were about 400 yards away. They opened fire with automatic weapons; bullets whizzed overhead, cutting down the last branches of the pine trees. The two men silently prepared for the coming battle. Suu dug more foxholes. Chin cleaned his gun.

After the third shot, Chin realized that he had fired his last cartridge. "Do you have any rounds left?" he asked Suu. "Not many," came the answer.

Chin had laid his two grenades in front of him. He picked up one and wiped it on his sleeve until not a grain of sand was left. Then he fondled it and examined it curiously as if he were seeing it for the first time. What was to be done? Should they withdraw? Nobody would know. At any rate, nobody would blame them for they had fought to their last bullet. Or perhaps they should wait until the enemy got at close range and throw a grenade on them, reserving the last for the final mêlée. But what then? The enemy would be left free to overrun the hamlet and kill its inhabitants; they would attack the regionals from the rear and destroy them. No, they couldn't retreat. Chin felt the immense responsibility of the moment weighing down on him.

"You may perhaps get some ammunition from our wounded people in the village", said Suu. "They must have some left."

Chin dashed to where his friend was lying and slapped his back. "Good idea," he said. "All right, try to stop them. I'll go down to the hamlet and try to get some ammunition."

"Be careful," said Suu. "They'll be shooting at you."

Chin pulled the safety pin of a grenade and hurled it at a distance of about ten yards, falling flat on his belly and pushing Suu's head down. The explosion kicked up a cloud of dust and smoke. Using it as a screen, Chin rushed down the rushed down the sand dune into the hamlet... Suu aimed carefully and fired shot after shot.

A few moments later Chin was back with a bag of cartridges. The enemy kept up a steady fire at them. A machine gun ripped up the sand barely a few inches from their heads. Suu crawled to another foxhole, from which he could get a better view of the enemy. "The bastard is on your left," he shouted to Chin.

Chin took changed position and took a careful look. He saw an American firing a machinegun rested on the back of another GI, who was lying on his belly. Chin's hastily-aimed shot missed the gunner but hit the man serving as gun-prop. The GI gave a jerk and turned over, causing the gun to fall. The gunner took to his heels but was felled by Chin's second shot.

Chin was so much absorbed by the enemy's frontal assault that he didn't hear repeated calls from Suu. Finally his friend crawled up to him and gave him a dig in the ribs. He looked in the direction in which Suu's finger was pointing: a squad of GIs was trying to take them from the rear...

Suu felled three men with his shots. Chin kept firing until the barrel of his gun was burning hot, and hurled his last grenade...

It was then that behind the enemy's line, a column of yellow smoke went up: the signal for retreat. The GIs who were trying to clamber up the sand dune turned and ran. They were truly showing a clean pair of heels!

That day, a whole American battalion had been stopped by Chin and Suu. Meanwhile other spearheads were smashed by our troops.

After the noise of the last troop-carrying helicopter had died away, Suu clambered out of his foxhole. His hair blown by the wind, he brandished his gun and shouted, "Hey folks, the enemy are all gone!"

Chin sat back and smiled happily. From the village, people streamed out. Many started climbing up the dune, waving their hands and calling.

surgical intervention at some other remote field hospital?

A second pow-wow was called, in which it was unanimously decided that the doctor and the two assistants would stay behind to carry on with the work.

Another rain of bombs shook the shelter dangerously. The sweat soaked doctor however, had been already operating fifteen minutes, and nothing on earth could distract him now.

The bombing was followed by the sputtering of helicopters-the unmistakable noise of an immediate troop landing.

Very soon, footsteps, the snapping of dry twigs, and raucous swearing, were heard from the ground about. Enemy troops were already fanning out for a search.

In the room, the work went on uninterrupted. Save for the perspiration on their foreheads, the doctor and the two assistants did nothing to betray the great tension they were all subject to. Their hands darted about quickly and with perfect precision, without any superfluous movement.

Finally, the doctor threw the lancet onto the awaiting tray. "There's still a sizeable stump for an artifical leg later", he said with a sign of relief.

The din of the war was receding. A peaceful quietness gradually descended.

SOUTH VIET NAM IN STRUGGLE
ON THE THRESHOLD OF ITS FOURTH YEAR

"*SOUTH Viet Nam in struggle*", foreign relations publication of the SVN NFL, is just four years old.

Four years ago, in the circumstance of an atrocious war caused by the US aggressors and in spite of the shortage of working means, "*SVNIS*" has striven to serve readers in foreign countries.

It tries to present to its readers the revolutionary line of struggle of the SVN NFL, the home and foreign policies of the NFL and SVNR PRG and their points of view and positions in an eventual settlement to the South Viet Nam problem.

Readers have been acquainted with South Viet Nam's land and people, the latter's life and struggle for independence and freedom, and also the development in all fields of the new life now blossoming in the South Viet Nam liberated zone.

Together with other home and foreign publications, "*SVNIS*" tirelessly exposes the true face of the US aggressor, unveils the Nixon government's perfidious schemes in the settlement of the South Viet Nam problem and unceasingly denounces before world opinion its odious crimes against the South Vietnamese people.

As a spokesman of the SVN NFL, "*SVNIS*" states the points of view and positions of the NFL on international problems, and at the same time reflects on its pages the world's great support, including that of the American people who condemn the US government's aggression war and demand the unconditional withdrawal of all US troops.

In the international field, "*SVNIS*" contributes to strengthening the friendship and militant solidarity between the South Vietnamese and world peoples and serves as a courier for its foreign readers.

During the past year, the paper has received many suggestions about the contents, and presentation, and subscription letters. Many readers have sent us poems, stories, photographs, thus contributing to the overall improvement of the paper. We highly appreciate this close relation and consider it a blood stream between readers and editors. This support helps "*SVNIS*" accomplish his duty, and is an important part of the world people's great support to the South Vietnamese people's resistance against US aggression, for national salvation. We should like to express here our boundless gratitude to our readers on the five continents.

"*SVNIS*" now enters its fourth year. On the impetus of the sacred national struggle "*SVNIS*" promises to make every effort to unceasingly improve its contents, form, and presentation so as to serve our readers ever better, contribute to the foreign relations work of the SVN NFL and be worthy of the confidence and support of its readers all over the world.

"*SVNIS*" hopes that it will receive more criticisms, suggestions, articles, pictures, photos etc... from its readers.

"*SVNIS*" takes this opportunity to send its readers cordial greetings of unity and militant solidarity, sincere thanks and best wishes for new year.

SOUTH VIET NAM IN STRUGGLE

READERS' OPINION

EDITOR'S NOTE — In its latest issue, "South Viet Nam in struggle" asked its readers for their opinion on its content and form. Many of our readers have answered this request. We publish some excerpts from those precious suggestions. We sincerely thank and warmly acclaim our readers for their criticisms and remarks.

— R. KEIAM PLASILORE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA :

The lay-out is good. Information from direct sources is very precious for my work.

— W. JAYANANDA DELIWITA, CEYLON :

Today I saw your paper "South Viet Nam in struggle" at a reading room. As I am very interested about your struggle against US imperialism, I read it throughly. For a long time, I am waiting for a newspaper about your front and struggle against US imperialism.

— KIAM DIOKO, CHARLES PERGAUD, STUDENT, CONGO (B) :

Your paper is useful for it provides information necessary to general culture. We are most interested in the articles dealing with the military activities in the struggle against the US aggressors and their henchmen. To help consolidating the friendship between our two peoples, please send us regularly papers dealing with the struggle of the valiant Vietnamese people against the US aggressors and the puppet administration.

— ASAF ALI MOHAMMED, GUYANA :

I was given a copy of the "South Viet Nam in struggle". I have found many interested articles... and I appreciated the newspaper to a great extent... I hope by reading these papers, I can follow the activities that are taking place in the world today.

— LUIS EDUARDO ALVAREZ HENAO, COLOMBIA :

I have just got your wonderful paper which presents and illustrates the admirable revolutionary position of a country wanting to throw off the heavy yoke of servitude. As a dean of one of the most important universities in Columbia (Latin America) I would like to receive more copies for our professors and language students.

— RICHARD JEAN, TEACHER, NICE, FRANCE :

Without being communist, I am wursesvedly supporting your paper in its struggle for the independence and unity of Viet Nam.

— K. MENGELBERG, STUDENT, HOLLAND :

"South Viet Nam in struggle" would be, to my opinion, more effective to the European reader if it would be more casual. It is very much the same as our illegal papers were during the second world war. If you like, it would be a pleasure to me to correspond with you.

— ROGER BODIN, TEACHER, NORWAY :

What do you think of the columns and lay-out of "South Viet Nam in struggle"?

— I'm very satisfied.

— EVA DANNSTDT, STUDENT, SWEDEN :

The lay-out is good. You can never publish too many pictures. It is the only paper we've got in Sweden from South Viet Nam. For example: when I was going to speak about PRG in a very big meeting, I got all informations from "South Viet Nam in struggle." I would like to know a little more about life in the liberated zones, about daily life and daily work, how to do to survive and go forward.

— D.B., STUDENT, OREGON, USA.

I think that the pictures of art work are very interesting, also the stories about liberation fighters. The articles re-stating the NFL's positions are interesting. The memorial issue for President Ho was very interesting. It has been of great use to me in finding out about the Viet Nam war from the NFL's point of view.

— T. F. JOURNALIST, NEWYORK, USA :

It is very professional-looking and well produced. The art work is excellent and the English style is clear and smooth. We find it very useful in the new stories we write about Viet Nam, especially in regard to: 1/ the political positions taken by the NFL, 2/ interpreting events in Viet Nam.

Tran Phu printing shop workers in the emulation movement: "Let us study and act upon President Ho Chi Minh's Testament"

SVN Republic-Socialist countries' friendship and militant solidarity further strengthened

THE last months of 1969 witnessed magnificent instances of the friendship and militant solidarity between the South Vietnamese people and the peoples of the socialist countries. A delegation of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam under Lawyer Nguyen Huu Tho, President of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the NFL and of the Advisory Council of the SVNR PRG attended the 20th National Day celebrations of the People's Republic of China during a friendship visit there. It then went to the Soviet Union also for a goodwill tour and for the celebrations of the 52nd anniversary of the great Russian October Revolution. Another delegation of the NFL and the PRG, led by Mr. Tran Buu Kiem, member of the Presidium of the NFL-CC and Minister of the PRG President's Office, visited the German Democratic Republic on the occasion of her 20th National Day. It then proceeded to the People's Republic of Hungary, the Polish People's Republic, the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Czechoslovask Socialist Republic, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the People's Republic of Mongolia. A third NFL-PRG delegation headed by Mme Nguyen Thi Binh, member of the NFL-CC and SVNR Foreign Minister, was present at the People's Republic of Albania 25th National Day, and made a trip to the People's Republic of Hungary. A delegation of the fighters of the South Viet Nam People's Liberation Armed Forces took part in the Republic of Cuba historic 10-million-ton sugar cane harvest.

The Parties, Governments and peoples of those socialist countries accorded a hearty welcome to the South Vietnamese delegations and expressed for them most affectionate feelings, which best illustrate their indefectible friendship for and militant solidarity with, the South Vietnamese people. Whether during the delegations' contacts with the masses in farms or factories, or in their conversations with Party and State leaders, militant solidarity with the South Vietnamese people found fine expressions in each statement in support of our people's just cause, in the firm handshakes. The peoples of the socialist countries, indeed, have been giving stronger and stronger political, moral and material support to our people's legitimate struggle, which help greatly inspires us and increases our strength. Impressive meetings were held to greet the envoys from the front against US imperialism, and during the talks with these, Party and State leaders of the host countries voiced their deep sympathy with and their resolute backing to the arduous but heroic and successful resistance of our people, against US aggression, till its complete victory. The joint communiques signed on these occasions all affirmed the unqualified support by the Governments of these socialist countries to our people's righteous fight as well as to our sensible position as made clear by the 10-point overall solution advanced by the NFL and the PRG. These Governments also sternly condemned the US imperialists' scheme to drag out their war of aggression and their odious crimes in South Viet Nam, and demanded that the aggressors stop their war, and withdraw unconditionally all their troops and troops of their satellites from South Viet Nam, so that we the South Vietnamese may settle ourselves our internal affairs, without foreign interference.

The joint communique with the Soviet Union pointed out: "Dedicated to the principles of proletarian internationalism, the CPSU, the USSR Government, and the Soviet people will continue their comprehensive support and assistance to the South Vietnamese people, the NFL, and the SVNR PRG, in their resistance against aggression, to save their country and to liberate their Fatherland".

The joint communique on the talks between President Nguyen Huu Tho and Premier Chou En-lai said that the Chinese people, acting upon the teaching of Chairman Mao Tse-tung, their great leader, that "the 700 million people of China are the strong rearguard of the Vietnamese people and the vast land of China is their reliable rear area" would constantly lend resolute support and all-out assistance to the Vietnamese people to help them carry through to the end their fight against US aggression, for national salvation.

The Party and State leaders of the GDR, the PRH, the PPR, the PRB, the CSR, the DPRK, the PRM, the PRA and the RC, warmly reiterated their determination to strengthen their solidarity with, and increase their support and assistance to, the South Vietnamese people, the South Viet Nam NFL, and the SVNR PRG.

The militant solidarity between the socialist countries and the people of South Viet Nam was brought out in even bolder relief in the Statement on Viet Nam issued by the Party and State leaders of seven Socialist countries, who met in Moscow early in December in the communique in support of Viet Nam issued on November 29 by the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist workers' Party, or in the 300,000 — strong meeting in Berlin on November 27 under the chairmanship of Mr. Walter Ulbricht, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, to condemn the Son My massacre.

The greatly successful friendship visits have further cemented the close ties between the South Vietnamese people and the socialist countries, the peoples of which make it their internationalist duty to increase their multiform support and assistance to the South Vietnamese people to help them defeat the US aggressros.

"Support Viet Nam," indeed, has become the watchword of the more than one thousand million brothers and sisters of ours in their revolutionary acts. The socialist countries have become the base of our righteous fight, and their devoted sympathy and moral, political and material support and assistance have actively contributed to the increase of our strength in all fields, our growing successes,

The socialist countries' support for our people's struggle for independence, freedom and national reunification has also showed that they are the solid rearbase of the national liberation movements, and the strong rearguard to the world wide movement for peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress.

THE South Vietnamese people, the NFL and the PRG greatly treasure the socialist countries' heartfelt friendship and their devoted support and great assistance and regard them as a priceless source of encouragement to us. We are deeply greateful to them for these tokens of proletarian internationalism and to deserve them we, South Vetnamese, take this opportunity to reaffirm our resolve to ride out all difficulties and inflict complete defeat on the US aggressors.

With such selfless assistance and backing of progressives all over the world, and in the US, and under the local leadership of the NFL and the SVNR PRG, we will certainly succeed in driving away the US aggressors, building an independent, democratic, peaceful, neutral and prosperous South Viet Nam, and achieving the ultimate reunification of the Fatherland by peaceful means.

We will strive to make the friendship and militant solidarity between the peoples of the socialist countries and us thrive incessantly.

The world with NFL anniversary

December 20 this year, the 9th founding anniversary of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, came just when the South Vietnamese people were recording many more, all-round victories, whereas the US-puppets, obstinate in nature, were frantically intensifying the war, committing towering crimes and evading the Vietnamese and the world people's just demand for the prompt, total and unconditional pull-out of US and satellite troops from South Viet Nam.

The celebrations of the NFL birthday all over the world, therefore, were a strong manifestation of the world people's backing for fighting Viet Nam and her just demands.

Meetings were held everywhere: Laos, the Soviet Union, China, the DPRK Cuba, the GDR, Hungary, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Rumania, Albania Egypt, Syria, etc-where the main theme dealt at by speakers was the withdrawal with practical deeds, of the US expeditionary corps from South Viet Nam, and an end to the US war of aggression. Stern condemnations were raised against the bellicose, ugly, obstinate nature of R. Nixon, as can be seen from his November 3, address.

Taking this opportunity, the world's people also raised their voice in support of the American people's anti-war movement whose crests were the previous Moratorium Days.

Diversified in forms, "Weeks of Solidarity with Viet Nam" were observed in many socialist, nationalist and even capitalist countries. Activities of these "Solidarity Weeks" included meetings, demonstrations, teach-ins or seminars, all condemning the US war crimes. Great efforts were also made to raise funds.

Under such slogans as "Do like Viet Nam!", "Strive for 10 million tons of sugar!" the Cuban people, from La Havana to Oriento or Matansas, organized meetings, exhibitions or film shows to mark the NFL's anniversary. Workers, cadres and peasants during days went to the field for labour to attend the "Week of Solidarity with Viet Nam".

In the UAR, thousands of people gathered in Cairo, voicing their warm support for Viet Nam. An exhibition on Viet Nam was opened in Alexandria.

Varied support activities were reported throughout Syria, whether in Damas or in remote towns and townlets, where support meetings were attended by thousands of people, including Vietnamese visitors. In co-ordination with the world campaign against the US war in Viet Nam, a tribunal was convoked in Bulgaria to try US war crimes in Viet Nam. Meanwhile, messages of greetings poured in steadily from various parts of the world. One thing they had in common — strong belief in the final victory of Viet Nam.

As a result the international prestige of the NFL has further been enhanced, and the South Vietnamese people and armed forces have become more confident, with the world-wide support, in the advance toward complete victory.

Anti-US demonstration in Helsinki under the motto "Aggression in Viet Nam, fascism made in USA"

President Nguyen Huu Tho cordially receiving Raul Valdes Vivo, the Cuban extraordinary and plenipotentiary Ambassador in SVNR.

¡Viet Nam — Cuba Unidos VENCERAN!

ON January 1, 1970, the Cuban people will celebrate the 11st anniversary of their independence.

Over the past ten years, under the correct leadership of Premier Fidel Castro and the Communist Party of Cuba, they have kept holding high the banner of revolutionary offensive, successfully carrying out the pledge of Cespades' partisans: "Independence or Death!" The small island of Cuba, once a poor and backward US new type colony, has become a socialist country in the Western hemisphere.

The Cuban people have stepped up their revolutionary offensive on all fronts, especially on the ideological one with a view to sweeping away all vestiges of the exploitation of man by man, liquidating the last dens of reactionary forces and pushing ahead the building of socialism. Through their struggle against the most cruel enemy of mankind and such natural calamities as Caribbean hurricanes, the Cubans of the era of H.Marty, Che Guevera and Fidel Castro have steeled themselves into men implacable against the enemy, always at the service of the people, imbued with a high spirit of internationalism, fond of learning and working, ready to fight selflessly for the cause of mankind.

Responding to the appeal of the Cuban Party and Revolutionary Government, the 7 million Cubans have been marching forward, working hard in any weather to achieve their agricultural plans and preparing for smashing all US schemes of provocation and agression. In an atmosphere of unprecedented enthusiasm, an emulation campaign for volunteer work has been surging through immense fields of rice and sugar-cane in Oriente, Camagwey, Pinar Del Rio..., involving agricultural settlements, civil services, schools, factories and army units.

Face to face with the barbarous American imperialist, the heroic and indomitable people of Cuba have achieved brilliant exploits. By defeating at Hivron the attack by the US aggressors and their henchmen, they have recorded the first victory of the peoples in America over US imperialism in the Western hemisphere. They have gone crushing other perfidious US schemes aimed at isolating and annihilating the Cuba revolution.

But the Cuba revolution has held on its way in spite of all opposition. The small island of Cuba has gradually and steadily changed for the best. Once a recreation centre for American and Cuban millionnaires, it boasts now the most extensive health and education network in Latin America; 2 million people have been liberated from illiteracy. For the first time in its history, it will produce 10 million tons of sugar in 1970, and will achieve self-sufficiency in food, particularly in rice in 1971. It is laying material foundations for building a Cuba endowed with modern industry and agriculture in the coming years.

The Cuban people have consolidated revolutionary power, increased their own strength, inspiring admiration and confidence to their friends in Asia, Africa and Latin America and filling the imperialists and the colonialists with deep concern.

The victory of the Cuban revolution eloquently proves, that in our epoch, a small country with a not very numerous population is bound to defeat any aggressive imperialism including US imperialism, on condition that its entire people are determined to do revolution, to fight for the defence of their revolutionary achievements, in accordance with a correct line.

The Cuban people and the Vietnamese people are tuned brothers hail-way round the world of each other, having similar characteristics in the history of their struggle against aggression and now in struggle against US imperialism, their common enemy.

The South Vietnamese people feel a deep sympathy for their Cuban brothers-in-arms who are fighting shoulder to shoulder with the Vietnamese people against the US aggressors and are ready to shed their blood to defend Viet Nam.

The South Vietnamese people sincerely thank the Party, Government and people of Cuba — headed by the beloved and respected President Fidel Castro — for their sympathy for and support to the just resistance in South Viet Nam from the very beginning. Never will they forget that Cuba was the first country to recognize the NFL and helped its representation in Havana. Cuba was also the first country to appoint an ambassador to the NFL and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam and the first country to set up a Committee of Solidarity with the South Vietnamese people.

The manifestations of international solidarity with the Vietnamese people's struggle against US aggression — as shown by the Party, Government and people of Cuba, by Premier Fidel Castro and Latin American hero Che Guevera — have stimulated the South Vietnamese combatants who are determined to forge ahead to accomplish their duty to their people, the Cuban people and mankind.

The South Vietnamese people highly value the historic effort of the Cuban people in producing 10 million tons of sugar in the "decisive" year of 1970, considering the 26th of July 1970 — anniversary day of the Cuban revolution and 10,000,000 tons of sugar day — as their own national feast. The Cuban 10-million norm will also be considered as a success of the Vietnamese people.

On the occasion of the glorious anniversary of the historic Cuban revolution, the South Vietnamese people convey to the Government, the brother people and Premier Fidel Castro of Cuba their greetings: "Determined to fight and to win". They express their confidence in the success of the building and defence of a new Cuba, in the achievement of the 10 million tons of sugar plan for 1970.

Patria o Muerte!
Viet Nam — Cuba Unidos Venceran!

American People's Will and Courage Bound to Win

ONCE again, the Moratorium Day took place in over thirty American towns and cities. From December 13 to 15, the American people strongly protested the war of aggression waged on by the Nixon administration in South Viet Nam.

There were many demonstrations, meetings, rallies, teach-ins, masses, ceremonies to read the names of GIs dead in Viet Nam, distributions of anti-war leaflets, and collections for peace organizations.

The new M-Day campaign surged through the States, in the North and the South, in the East and the West, involving remote places, farms, churches, monasteries, primary schools ...

In last mid-December, echoing the previous M-Days, such slogans as "Pull out US troops immediately" drowned the lies, slanders and threats of the "hawks". Vice-President Agnew smeared himself by stating that "M" participants did not constitute the majority of the American nation who silently supported Nixon's "search for peace".

December "M" activities were eloquent replies of the American people to the November 3 warlike speech of Nixon and to his threats and deceptions in the TV speech of December 8. The American people demand facts and not words, the immediate withdrawal of US troops and not a token "search for peace".

The Moratorium once again testified to the indignation of millions of American citizens against the plan of "Vietnamization" of the war which was a plan aimed at protracting the war in Viet Nam. Public opinion in the USA is more and more aware that the Nixon clique is turning American boys into blood-thirsty murderers perpetrating such odious crimes as the Son My massacre.

The presence among the demonstrators of many GIs on duty in South Viet Nam showed that the American people were against the protraction of the criminal war of aggression.

How could Nixon, Agnew, and the other planners of the American war in Viet Nam ignore the legitimate aspiration of millions of Americans as expressed on December 13 by Hr. Lindsay, the Mayor of New York, who told that in the interests of their children and their country, the Americans must immediately withdraw from this lousy war.

"Moratorium Days" has had an ever stronger impact on the world's people. On December 15, thousands of American nationals in West Germany, France, Australia, Finland, Great Britain... coordinated their action with the movement in the country where meetings were held in Chicago and New York, hundreds of students in Tucson,(Arizona) protested in churches, representatives of 600,000 young members of the Democratic Party met in Nevada to adopt a resolution demanding the immediate and total withdrawal of US troops and military personnel, 2,000 mariners went into the streets in California and tens of thousands of people demonstrated against the war in Michigan, Carolina, Missachussets ... Side by side with the American people, the world's peoples have effectively supported American M-Days.

The South Vietnamese people make a clear distinction between the aggressive imperialists and the true American people who have always sympathized with and supported all activities against the US war of aggression in Viet Nam. They highly value the statement by 1,000 representatives of 300 anti-war organizations: "The American people are demanding the end to the war and the pull out of US troops, they are demanding that Washington put an end to its support of the dictatorial, antipopular and rotten regime of Saigon". They fully support the activities of the New Committee of Mobilization for the ending of the war.

The anti-war storm raised by M-Days remind us of the freedom and justice-loving traditions of the American people. The Moratorium spirit will be a bright torch for the American nation. Other stormy M-Days will continue, in spite of Nixon's measures of terrorism, repression and deception, so long as there is an American aggressor in South Viet Nam and the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique is still in power.

For the sake of the American nation's honour, of peace and justice, the American people are determined to oppose any reactionary force. The American people's will and courage are bound to win.

HA DUY

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